

Third Ward To Main Street Connectivity Project

Blodgett Public Meeting No. 2 Notes

On Wednesday, 25 September 2002, the Third Ward Redevelopment Council and the City of Houston held the second of three public meeting at the Third Ward Multi-Service Center. Forty-one residents and/or business owners participated in small group discussions, led by M2L Associates, to consider the design of street improvements, landscaping and other amenities to the Blodgett Street Corridor from Scott Street to Main Street.

AGENDA ITEMS

- I. Consultants presented background of the project and scope of work.
- II. The consultants reviewed comments and findings from first public meeting held on August 28, 2002.
- III. The consultants presented a PowerPoint presentation of their preliminary landscape analysis for the corridor as well as discussing the potential scope of the streetscape work, and potential streetscape design images and elements.
- IV. Participants were divided into three facilitated, breakout sessions.
- V. Participants presented findings and the consultant team presented concluding remarks.

The following information represents the summary of the three group sessions:

**(Note: number in parentheses indicates the number of times this item was brought up)*

THEME *(Possible theme(s) or ideas for the corridor that could be incorporated into the streetscape)*

- Coordinate with Washington Terrace improvements between Dowling and Ennis.
- Consistent landscape theme with accent trees.

STREET LIGHT/BANNER *(Lighting types, character, banners, quality of lights, etc.)*

- Brighter lights (3)
- Traditional style along corridor (3)
- Light pole banners, not too commercial (2)
- No banners
- Surveillance cameras
- More efficient lights for security
- Bolder lights at major intersections (Dowling, Main, Scott, Almeda)
- Commercial style between Highway 288 to Scott Street
- Neighborhood friendly with lights at seating areas.
- Low maintenance lights that are durable

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SIGNAGE/MONUMENT *(Possible directional/neighborhood signage, monuments, materials, etc.)*

- Directional signage for the Washington Terrace and Midtown, etc.
- Corridor markers at Main Street, Alameda, Dowling, and Scott Street (2)
- Different types of signs/marquis along corridor
- Different style of banners can identify places and destinations.
- Historic marker at TSU
- Limited through truck traffic

PUBLIC ART *(Types of artworks)*

- Artwork should be part of signage/monuments
- Little interest in statues and other traditional public artwork media

SPECIAL PAVING *(Areas where special paving should occur and what type of paving should be considered)*

- Wider, consistent sidewalks
- Wider sidewalks that are adjacent to the roadway curb
- Street crossing special paving at signalized intersections
- Special paving for the school zone
- Pavers in key locations that are cost efficient.
- Historical symbols/ideas in pavers
- Pedestrian signals and crosswalk
- Special paving for on-street parking

LANDSCAPING

- Upright-growing street trees
- Less detailed in median, no shrubs/groundcovers
- Crape Myrtle (2)
- Bradford Pear
- Live Oak
- Bald Cypress

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- Trees in sidewalks and median/esplanade where needed (2)
- Low maintenance trees
- Splashes of color at major intersections and in tree planters

STREET FURNISHING

- More benches (2)
- Seating areas with shade trees (2)
- Social/public areas (2)
- Trash cans
- Support bikeway at Ennis and provide bike rack storage and seating areas
- Let businesses take care of this where appropriate

BUS SHELTER

- Inadequate bus shelters